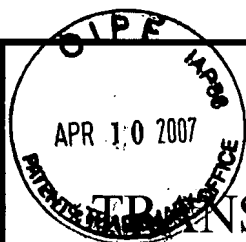


PRW



# TRANSMITTAL FORM

Application Serial Number	10/667,747
Filing Date	September 22, 2003
First Named Inventor	Carpenter
Group Art Unit	3734
Examiner Name	Melissa K. Ryckman
Attorney Docket No.	NMT-013
Patent No.	Not applicable
Issue Date	Not applicable

## ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Check Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Fee Transmittal Form <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Response (11 pgs.) <input type="checkbox"/> Preliminary <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Letter to Official Draftsperson including Drawings [Total Sheets ____] <input type="checkbox"/> Petition for Extension of Time <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Form PTO-1449 <input type="checkbox"/> Copies of IDS Citations <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Sequence Listing submission <input type="checkbox"/> Paper Copy/CD <input type="checkbox"/> Computer Readable Copy <input type="checkbox"/> Statement verifying identity of above	<input type="checkbox"/> Copy of Notice to File Missing Parts of Application <input type="checkbox"/> Formal Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Request For Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney (Revocation of Prior Powers) <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Executed Declaration and Power of Attorney for Utility or Design Patent Application <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement <input type="checkbox"/> CD(s) for large table or computer program <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment After Allowance <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Certificate of Correction <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Correction (in duplicate)	<input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Appeal to Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Brief (in triplicate) <input type="checkbox"/> Status Inquiry <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Receipt Postcard <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Certificate of First Class Mailing under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 <input type="checkbox"/> Certificate of Facsimile Transmission under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 <input type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below)
--	---	---

## CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

Direct all correspondence to: Patent Administrator  
Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Preston  
Gates Ellis LLP  
State Street Financial Center  
One Lincoln Street  
Boston, MA 02111-2950  
Tel. No.: (617) 261-3100  
Fax No.: (617) 261-3175

## SIGNATURE BLOCK

Date: April 5, 2007  
Reg. No. 58,343  
Tel. No.: (617) 261-3216  
Fax No.: (617) 261-3175

Respectfully submitted,

Karen A Schouten  
Karen A. Schouten  
Attorney for Applicant(s)  
Kirkpatrick & Lockhart Preston  
Gates Ellis LLP  
State Street Financial Center  
One Lincoln Street  
Boston, MA 02111-2950





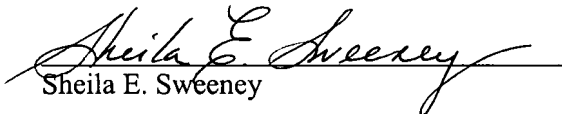
PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. NMT-013

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Carpenter et al. CONFIRMATION NO.: 1903  
SERIAL NO.: 10/667,747 GROUP NO.: 3734  
FILING DATE: September 22, 2003 EXAMINER: Melissa K. Ryckman  
TITLE: FRONT-END LOADER FOR PROSTHETIC OCCLUDERS AND  
METHODS THEREOF

**CERTIFICATE OF FIRST CLASS MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.8**

I hereby certify that this correspondence, and any document(s) referred to as enclosed herein, is/are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 5 day of April, 2007.

  
Sheila E. Sweeney

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith is/are:

- Transmittal Form (1 pg.);
- Amendment and Response (11 pgs.);
- Certificate of First Class Mailing (1 pg.);
- Return Receipt Postcard.





PATENT  
Atty. Docket No. NMT-013

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Carpenter et al. CONF. NO.: 1903  
SERIAL NUMBER: 10/667,747 ART UNIT: 3734  
FILING DATE: September 22, 2003 EXAMINER: Melissa K. Ryckman  
TITLE: FRONT-END LOADER FOR PROSTHETIC OCCLUDERS AND  
METHODS THEREOF

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the non-final Office action mailed from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on January 5, 2007. Applicant believes that no extension of time or fee is due for this Amendment and Response to be entered and considered. However, please consider this a conditional petition for the proper extension, if one is required, and a conditional authorization to charge any related extension fees or other fees necessary for entry of this paper to Deposit Account No. 50-1721.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper; and

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this paper.